

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - December 18, 2013

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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:33 P.M.

Those Present Were:

Dave Engelhardt, BCATS Director; Tom Foret, Hampton Township; Gary Brandt, Monitor Township; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Sue Fortune, EMCOG; Terry Moulthane, Bay City; Jay Reithel, MDOT; Dennis Bragiel, Kawkawlin Township; Eric Sprague, BMTA; Dan Hansford, City of Essexville; Dave Harran, City of Bay City; Jay Anderson, BCATS Staff, and; Cyndi Gaul, Secretary/BCATS Staff. Pamela Boyd, MDOT-Planning was present via speaker phone.

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Hansford, seconded by Bragiel, to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2013 meeting. Motion Passed.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

Bay Metro Update:

Sprague talked about the Bus Mounted Bike Rack Project and that it had been approved with FTA 5307 Funding to start January 2014. Forty Nine buses will be fitted with bus mounted bike racks.

BCATS 2014-17 TIP Amendments:

There are three proposed project additions to the BCATS 2014-17 TIP from MDOT, a Bay County Road Commission bridge project name change and funding amount increase, and the inclusion of the BMTA Bike Rack Project. Engelhardt provided everyone with a snapshot of the requests for review. Amendment changes for the BCATS 2014-17 TIP are: MDOT Project for electrical work on the M-25 Bridge over the Saginaw River in 2014; MDOT Project for replacement of electrical components of the drive system on the M-13/M-84 Bridge over the Saginaw River with a PE phase and a SUB phase; Note MDOT TAP project on M-25/Pine Rd for 8' shoulders is part of the MDOT GPA added 10/16/2013; Bay County Road Commission Wheeler Road, Old Beaver Road, and Mackinaw Road for bridge preventative maintenance to restore and rehabilitate over the Kawkawlin River, and; BMTA Bike Rack Project.

Engelhardt mentioned that the agenda and meeting minutes for the BCATS meetings are posted on the county website and includes the 2014-17 TIP, along with the proposed changes and corrections. Engelhardt also mentioned posting TIP amendments to the Bay County website prior to the policy meeting.

A motion was made by Fortune, seconded by Bragiel, to accept the BCATS 2014-17 TIP Amendments as follows: MDOT Project for electrical work on the M-25 Bridge over the Saginaw River in 2014; both a PE phase and SUB phase of MDOT Project for replacement of electrical components of the drive system on the M-13/M-84 Bridge over the Saginaw River; Bay County Road Commission Wheeler Road, Old Beaver Road, and Mackinaw Road for bridge preventative maintenance to restore and rehabilitate, and: BMTA Bike Rack Project. With the approval for administrative authority to make changes to the funding sources should corrections need to be made. Motion passed.

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MDOT Euclid Avenue/Wilder Road Access Management Plan:

Reithel gave an update from the Bangor Township meeting he attended regarding the MDOT Access Management Plan for the Euclid Avenue/Wilder Road Corridors. Bangor Twp already has an Access Management plan in place. Using this plan as a base document for the other municipalities makes sense. The project scope is ready to go. Engelhardt stressed the importance of keeping the funding sources for each of these project separate and was uncertain how to accomplish that. Boyd said she would be available to help answer any funding questions with this project. Engelhardt asked that information on this project be sent to both Boyd and himself. Boyd will look into how the actual billing should be done for this project. Reithel said that the kick off for this project would be April 2014.

Governor Snyder's Regional Prosperity Initiative:

Engelhardt said that he hasn't heard anything new with the initiative. Fortune has submitted requests for support from eight counties and three MPOs. She was asked to "clarify" the application requests for the region. Boyd said that there should be discussion on January 1, 2014 about the applications submitted. Currently, the application are being reviewed. Engelhardt mentioned that he has requested the Governor's GIS files for the Regional Prosperity Initiative. He's not sure if there will be any benefit to the information, however he will follow up to attempt to get the information.

BCATS Annual Report

The BCATS Annual Report for 2013 has been submitted to the Bay City Democrat. Engelhardt just received the proof back and is reviewing it prior to having it printed in the December 26, 2013 edition.

Project Updates:

The **Woodside Ave Project** (to Pine) had plans submitted on December 10, 2013. There were some minor changes to be made and the project is good to go for the April 2014 let. MDOT has been looking at the requirements for the **I-75 Oversize/Overlimit Permits** and they are thinking about removing some of the restrictions such as the curfew. Reithel said that he is in the process of writing up the justifications for the changes. Engelhardt mentioned the **Thomas & Jenny Beautification Project** being taken on by the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce under their Leadership Program. The project is expected to include signage, flower planting, etc. Engelhardt wondered if MDOT's trailer might be available to assist study for this area. The **Saginaw Street Project** has completed the design engineering portion of the project. The **Uptown at the Rivers Edge Project** is moving along. The **Mill-End Project** is moving along. The **BMTA Central Bus Station Updates** are underway for the facility they share with Indian Trails. The project was quite large and had to be broken up into Phase One and Phase Two. Phase One of this project included the update of the restrooms. Phase Two of this project will include lobby flooring and a new sign for the front of the building. It is anticipated that this project will take 1 to 1 ½ years to complete both phases. The **North Union Project** (Two Mile to Euclid Avenue) has been submitted to MDOT, however MDOT did not getting back with the Road Commission on the permit. The ADA on the other side of the road held the project up the first time, now the MDOT permit is holding the project up. The **North Union project** ended up with 6' shoulders on both sides of the road. The design phase has been completed for the **Old Kawkawlin Road Project**. The design phase has been completed for the **Patterson**

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Road Project (Patterson Road to Wheeler Road). The **Salzburg Road Project** (4 Mile to Mackinaw Road) may need to be moved up since the road is really bad. The middle of the road is basically gone. Reithel mentioned that there was a meeting on November 19, 2013 to discuss the removal or replacement of the **Crane Road Bridge**.

Reithel explained that Phillips will no longer be attending the BCATS meetings as she has been reassigned to the Mt. Pleasant region and will be attending the Midland Area meetings.

Other/New Business:

Adjustment of Urban Boundaries:

Boyd discussed the adjustment of Urban Boundaries and that there would be a call for Small Urban areas projects in January/February 2014.

TIP Amendment Form:

Boyd discussed the new TIP Amendment Form and that it should reduce the amount of letters that are written for amendments. Boyd encouraged people to use the form.

MDOT Five-Year Program (2014-2018):

Boyd discuss the MDOT Five-Year Program. She said that the projects are listed on the MDOT website at www.michigan.gov/mdot. Comment and questions should be submitted on the website. Boyd wanted to let BCATS know that the Mackinaw Interchange project was not listed as one of the projects.

Long Range Plan Development Training:

Boyd said that there would be training on how to develop the Long Range Plan on March 3, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Lansing. This training will review all the Long Range Plan requirements. Boyd will send out a "Save the Date" email.

Freight:

Engelhardt discussed the draft of the primary Urban Freight Plan. There's a subset of criteria based on the State's 27,000 mile limit. Engelhardt is looking for comments and suggestions. The current plan doesn't go past the Flint area due to the mileage limitations. In order to be considered a Rural Freight Corridor, you have to have a minimum of 25% of annual truck/fright traffic and we aren't even close to that amount. Engelhardt has asked MDOT for the Federal data.

Rural Task Force:

Engelhardt discussed the overall plan to supply funding to the Rural Task Force as a whole. C&D Funds are "use it or loose it" basis, so it's unclear how the funds will flow.

C & D Funds:

There is legislation to get rid of the State C&D funding. Engelhardt wondered if perhaps taking away the Federal C&D Funds would move MDOT to re-think its allocation of STP funds to the C & D categories and to let the formula allocate those funds elsewhere.

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As there was no further business, a motion was made by Fortune, seconded by Lillo, to adjourn the December 18, 2013 BCATS Policy Committee meeting at 2:36 p.m. Motion Passed.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director

Transcribed by C. Gaul
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